

HR 6/S172

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JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Friday - 24 January 1975

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343-4072

1. [REDACTED] Called Marc Himmelstein, GSA, regarding H. R. 6 and S. 172, both of which would change mileage and per diem allowances for Federal employees. I raised with him Mr. Yale's, Office of Finance, objections to a statutory minimum for mileage expenses. Himmelstein said this was the general view of all the agencies and that OMB and GSA had tried to get the last Congress to accept this view, but weren't successful. He believes the provision in H. R. 6 and S. 172 is the best the agencies can hope for. GSA is preparing a new Executive branch bill, which corrects a technical flaw and which drops the veterans' mileage allowances. The latter provision was the cause of the President's pocket veto. GSA hopes to have their bill to OMB next week, and hopes OMB will call a meeting of agency representatives for the following week, as Congress is expected to move on H. R. 6 and S. 172 within the next two months. I subsequently called Mr. Yale to report on the status of these bills. He said the Agency could certainly live with a statutory minimum for mileage expenses, but didn't prefer it.

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2. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] NIO/SEA, and I met with four personal Senate staff members and Richard Moose, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, for the purpose of briefing them on the situation in Indochina. The personal staffers were: Rudy Rousseau (Senator Pearson), Dan Spiegel (Senator Humphrey), Dick McCall (Senator McGee) and Steve Bryen (Senator Case). The interest of the group centered on Vietnam and more specifically on the issue of Soviet and Chinese aid to North Vietnam in the context of congressional consideration of a supplemental appropriation bill for military and economic aid to South Vietnam. Cambodia was also covered to a lesser degree. The session lasted about an hour and a half and was well received by the staffers several of whom said they would like their Senators to receive the same briefing.

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25X1 3. [redacted] Called Bill Jones, INR/State Department, and said that the Director had sent letters to Chairmen John C. Stennis, Senate Armed Services Committee and Chairman John L. McClellan, Senate Appropriations Committee, correcting reference to Department of State membership on the Intelligence Evaluation Committee in the Director's proposed statement on domestic activities.

25X1 4. [redacted] Chester Sobsey, Administrative Assistant to Senator Howard Cannon (D., Nev.), called and I reviewed with him

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25X1 5. [redacted] Chris Russell, Director, Legislative Programs Coordination Staff/AID, called to thank Mr. Cary for setting up the briefing on Vietnam for the Senate legislative assistants and to ascertain what procedures he should follow for additional such briefings. I told him that Mr. Cary is the focal point for our congressional dealings.

In response to my request, Russell identified Denis Neill, OGC/AID, as the expert for our Office of General Counsel to contact on the Southeast Asia country limitations in the Foreign Assistance Act in light of our request on this matter not being fully satisfied during the legislative process.

25X1 6. [redacted] Called Richard Kaufman, Economist, Joint Economic Committee, and he asked for a briefing on Soviet military expenditures and armed forces, if possible, on an unclassified basis. I told him I was sure it could be arranged and suggested that he be sure that all interested staff members of the Committee be involved in the interest of avoiding the need for a similar briefing and he agreed that he would make sure all interested staff members would be in attendance.

25X1 7. [redacted] In response to his earlier request, arranged for Norvill Jones, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, a briefing on assistance to North Vietnam for the years 1972 through 1974.
25X1A [redacted] NIO/SEA, and I are scheduled to provide the briefing on Monday, 27 January at 11:00. Jones said he will need a paper.